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Identical letters dated 28 April 2015 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I write further to our previous letters regarding the Turkish Government's direct and illegal support for armed terrorist groups and their criminal activities against the security and stability of Syria. I wish to draw your attention to some intelligence of the utmost gravity indicating that the Turkish Government clearly and overtly helped terrorist units to enter Idlib city in early April 2015, and the city of Jisr al-Shughur and town of Ishtabraq two days ago.

Armed terrorist groups including the Nusrah Front, which is armed and trained by the Turkish Government, committed a massacre two days ago in the town of Ishtabraq, in the countryside of Jisr al-Shughur. The terrorists killed some two hundred civilians, most of them women and children. The bodies were dumped in the fields, in the open. These events are a testament to the savagery not only of the terrorist Nusrah Front, but also of the Turkish, Saudi Arabian and Qatari officials who support them. The Syrian Government will provide the Security Council with information concerning the innocent civilian victims.

With backing from the Saudi and Qatari regimes, Turkish intelligence officers in an advanced position on the Turkish-Syrian border directed operations and provided logistical and military support to enable the entry into Syria of some 5,000 foreign terrorist fighters, most of them belonging to the terrorist Nusrah Front, which has been included on the Security Council list of terrorist entities. After bombarding the city with thousands of missiles over several days, Nusrah Front terrorist units entered Jisr al-Shughur, storming its peaceful neighbourhoods, killing entire families and forcibly displacing thousands of civilians from their homes and land. The Turkish Government has continued to provide weapons, funding and training to thousands of terrorists, who destroyed Aleppo city and displaced its citizens, and occupied the city of Idlib and before it the city of Kassab. In the process, the terrorists killed hundreds of Syrians and mutilated their bodies. A significant number of the victims were decapitated. There can be no doubt that those actions amount to war crimes. The parties and States that committed, funded and incited them must therefore be held accountable.

The Turkish Army provided logistical support and intense covering fire for the recent terrorist attacks on Jisr al-Shughur and Ishtabraq, and before that on Idlib, Kassab and Aleppo. The attacks were therefore a direct Turkish attack on Syria.

They have shown, clearly and repeatedly, that the political, military and security institutions of the Turkish Government are overtly supporting terrorism and violating the sovereignty of a Member State of the United Nations, in a flagrant contravention of the Charter of the United Nations and the counter-terrorism resolutions of the Security Council.

The Syrian Arab Republic calls on the Security Council, in accordance with its mandate, to bring an end to Turkey's assault on the Syrian Arab Republic and hold the perpetrators and their supporters accountable for endangering peace and security in the region and the world. Syria also calls for immediate action to curb Turkey's attack on Syria and violation of the Security Council counter-terrorism resolutions, particularly resolution 2170 (2014), 2178 (2014) and 2199 (2015).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Bashar **Ja'afari**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative